

# REGIONAL ALLIANCE FOR HEALTHY SCHOOLS



JANUARY 2025

## RAHS HOT NEWS

### School-Based Health Center Awareness Month!

February is National School-Based Health Care Awareness Month, a time to recognize the vital role school-based health centers (SBHCs) play in keeping youth and adolescents healthy, engaged, and ready to learn.

#### **Why School-Based Health Centers Matter**

SBHCs serve as a lifeline for students, offering physical and behavioral health care as well as vision and dental services right where students spend most of their time—at school. We reduce barriers such as transportation, lack of access to providers, and financial obstacles by bringing care directly to our youth and adolescents. We know that when children and teens are healthy, they are better prepared to succeed in the classroom and beyond. Whether it's providing routine check-ups, behavioral health support, vaccinations, vision checks, or managing chronic conditions, our work has a lasting impact on children's lives. Whether you're scheduling appointments, meeting students where they are, or helping them navigate challenges, your efforts are making a difference.

According to the National School-Based Health Alliance, the following is what makes SBHCs essential:

- Improved academic outcomes: Students who use SBHCs often show better attendance, higher grades, and increased graduation rates.
- Access to equitable care: SBHCs provide a safety net for underserved youth and adolescents, addressing disparities in health outcomes.
- Whole-child approach: SBHCs ensure comprehensive care for students by integrating physical and behavioral health care services.

Thank you for being part of this mission and for the incredible work you do to support students every day. Let's keep the momentum going this month and beyond!

# HEALTH CENTER UPDATES

RAHS-SPRINGPORT

RAHS-Springport got lots of new equipment installed!



## STAFF KUDOS!

### CONGRATULATIONS TO MICHELLE HENSLEY!

Congratulations to Michelle Hensley on her appointment as the APRN representative of the Nursing Philanthropy Advisory Committee! The Nursing Philanthropy Advisory Committee was developed to coordinate and advise on philanthropic opportunities that further Nursing at Michigan's strategic priorities for using gifts for UMH nurses. This nursing committee works in collaboration with Nursing Leadership and the Development Office to make recommendations to the CNE on the use of donor funds. Michelle will be a great addition to this important committee and will be able to provide valuable insight on nursing funding needs that could potentially be supported by philanthropy gifts.



Congratulations to Richfield on winning an award from MDHHS highlighting increased HMEs and wonderful quality! The Richfield team made a joint decision to utilize some of these funds and their own to support patients and families, including adopting two families over the holiday season. Thank you Richfield team for your wonderful patient care and community outreach.

**GREAT  
JOB!**

**KEEP  
IT  
UP!**

# What Are Our Patients Saying?

It's a new year, and the RAHS leadership team warmly welcomes back our dedicated staff and patients. We want to express our gratitude to the incredible care teams at our school-based health centers who provide exceptional patient care every day. To kick off with some positivity, we're sharing some heartfelt feedback from the youth and adolescents that we serve. These messages reflect the difference our services make in their lives and the lives of their families. Please note that these comments are written by students of varying ages and are a part of their authentic voices.

## **ARMSTRONG MIDDLE SCHOOL**

- "I absolutely love it because the people that work here are so amazing."
- "My experience with the RAHS Health Center was amazing. My social worker made me laugh every appointment we had, and she made me feel better about situations."

## **BEECHER HIGH SCHOOL**

- "I have a wonderful experience every time, getting the help I need mentally and physically."
- "It's very lovely help, and it truly makes me feel better about my situations."

## **CARMAN-AINSWORTH HIGH SCHOOL**

- "I get the help that I need when I get hurt or when I need therapy."  
\_(This is why we do the work—students feel supported when they need us most!)\_
- "It's a safe and respectful environment, and the people treat you very well! The hospitality is amazing, and it's overall a great facility to have available to me and other students."

## **INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF FLINT**

- "I love the nurse practitioner! Very sweet and understanding! Made me feel very comfortable, and I appreciate her very much!"
- "It was a good experience, and I thank them for helping me."

## **KEARSLEY HIGH SCHOOL**

- "I feel safe coming to the clinic."
- "It's always a very good experience, and it has a very good aura."

# What Are Our Patients Saying? cont.

## **LINCOLN MIDDLE SCHOOL**

- "It is always a nice and friendly place full of people that I trust."
- "They are really good. I would have never known the things I know now if it was another group."

## **PIONEER HIGH SCHOOL**

- "They know what they are doing and they are so kind. I am sure that I will overcome my fear with them—I trust them."

## **RICHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY**

- "I was scared, but Mrs. Paradise helped me get through."
- "They are super helpful."

## **SCARLETT MIDDLE SCHOOL**

- "My experience has been very good. I love coming to RAHS because they make me feel welcome, safe, and happy!"
- "They were so nice—they helped me with questions and concerns about my feelings."

## **YPSILANTI CONSOLIDATED HIGH SCHOOL**

- "It's very nice to hear the RAHS staff ask how I am and always try to find a way to help me. My experience was helpful when I asked them if they knew of any places to fix my glasses, and they offered a solution."
- "They are always helpful and comforting. They never make you feel out of place."

## **YPSILANTI CONSOLIDATED MIDDLE SCHOOL**

- "Shajuan is awesome with the children. We will now come here for vaccines. Thanks, Shajuan, for all of your help!"

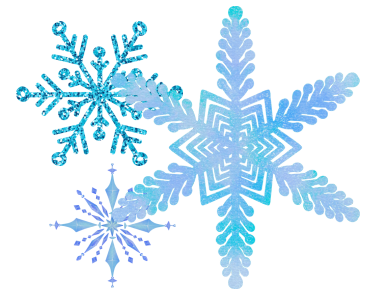
Thank You for Making a Difference! These messages remind us of the power of compassionate care and the importance of creating safe, welcoming spaces for our students. We are so proud of the work being done by our RAHS teams and are excited to continue serving our communities in the new year. Stay tuned for more feedback in future updates!

Let's keep making an impact, one student at a time.

# OPEN POSITIONS WITH RAHS

## MEDICAL ASSISTANT AT RAHS-INTERNATIONAL

If you know of any Medical Assistants looking for a position that may be interested in school-based health, let Marc Spaulding know!



## CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER-VIRTUAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH HOME

If you know of any Social Workers looking for a position that may be interested in school-based health, let Trish Wyatt know!

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## FEBRUARY 2025

### **RAHS-LINCOLN HIGH & LINCOLN MIDDLE VISION DAY**

**FEBRUARY 6**

The RAHS-Mobile Unit will be onsite at RAHS-Lincoln High and RAHS-Lincoln Middle Schools for vision care. Make sure to get signed vision consent forms to Sam!

### **RAHS-CARMAN-AINSWORTH HIGH SCHOOL VISION DAY**

**FEBRUARY 13**

The RAHS-Mobile Unit will be onsite at RAHS-Carman-Ainsworth High School for vision care. Make sure to get signed consent forms to Sam!

### **RAHS-KEARSLEY HIGH SCHOOL DENTAL DAY**

**FEBRUARY 19**

The RAHS-Mobile Unit will be onsite at RAHS-Kearsley High School for dental care. Make sure to get signed consent forms to Sam!

### **RAHS-ARMSTRONG MIDDLE SCHOOL VISION DAY**

**FEBRUARY 27**

The RAHS-Mobile Unit will be onsite at RAHS-Armstrong Middle School for vision care. Make sure to get vision consents to Sam!

### **SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTER AWARENESS MONTH**

**FEBRUARY**

UMHS-RAHS.ORG

